

Thomas W. Lawson Tells How He Fell Victim to Lure of Films

Financier Found in Illusion of Screen a Powerful Influence.

NOW BECOMES "RABID FAN"

Author of "Friday the 13th" Confesses He Didn't Think Pictures Amounted to Much.

"I found myself fairly carried away with the illusion of the picture. I was surprised and delighted."

These are the words in which Thomas W. Lawson describes his conversion to motion pictures as a result of witnessing a performance of the film adaptation of his book, "Friday the 13th," which William A. Brady produced with the World Film Corporation.

There is something of interest in the financier's comment for the reason that it expresses the attitude of quite a number of thinking people who feel themselves inveigled into motion picture exhibition as martyrs to a cause and remain because their martyrdom was short-lived.

"The illusion of the picture" is the thing that gets the interest of the people. It is a real, substantial illusion. And it represents why the motion picture has become such a tremendous factor in the every day life of the nation as well as of the amusement business.

"When I consented to the use of 'Friday the 13th' upon the screen I was actuated principally by the desire to be obliging and I had no hope of participating in anything out of the ordinary," said Mr. Lawson, after seeing his own work done in film.

How He Was Converted.

"I was greatly surprised and delighted," it had not occurred to me as possible that a story could be so fully and clearly told without the spoken word. I had seen a few moving pictures before, but not many, and of those I had seen certainly none compared with this one in bringing out everything designed by the author.

"I found myself carried away by the illusion of the picture. Why, it would be utterly impossible to secure any such effect as this Stock Exchange scene upon the stage of a speaking theater. Even the Hippodrome's immense spaces could not carry out the sense of vastness."

"I had no appreciation of the possibilities of the motion picture, and I can begin to understand the congratulations which have been pouring in upon me by wire and mail since the first showing of 'Friday the 13th.' I dare say I shall develop immediately into a first class movie fan—which might come under the description of being 'holist with my own petard.'"

Robert Brower Retires.

Announcement is made that Robert Brower, one of the pioneers of the motion picture acting forces, is to retire from the stage and screen permanently. Mr. Brower's last appearance as a picture actor, it is stated, is in "The Quest of Life" at Loew's Columbia Theater this week. He has had an interesting career.

"One hears some of the younger actors talk about the motion picture industry being in its infancy," declared Mr. Brower. "Why, I rocked the cradle of the industry of my life have been spent on the stage or in association with theatrical affairs, and I cannot help but smile at these youngsters who think they are pioneers."

Mr. Brower took part in one of the first motion pictures ever taken out by Thomas Edison, and he remained with that concern until a very few weeks ago, when he decided to retire from active work before the camera and to devote his time to pigeon raising on a newly acquired farm in Ulster county, N. Y.

TODAY'S BEST FILMS.

Casino, Seventh and P streets—E. H. Sothern in "The Chatter," produced by Frederic Thompson (Vita-graph).

Grandall's Ninth and E streets—Clara Kimball Young in "The Dark Silence" (World Film Corp.).

Mayoy, Columbia road and Fourteenth street—Marguerite Clark in "Little Lady Eileen" (Famous Players).

Apollo, 634 H street northeast—Florence Lawrence in "Elusive Isabel," adapted from the story by Jacques Futrell (Universal).

Avenue Grand, 645 Pennsylvania avenue southeast—Willie Collier, Jr., in "The Bugle Call" (Triangle).

Masonic Auditorium, Thirteenth street and New York avenue—Mae Murray and Theodore Roberts in "The Dream Girl" (Lasky).

Leader, Ninth between E and F streets—Mary Pickford in "Hilda from Holland" (Famous Players).

Circle, 2103 Pennsylvania avenue—Florence Turner in "The Doorstep" (Mutual).

Loew's Columbia, Twelfth and F streets—Maurice and Florence Walton in "The Quest of Life" (Famous Players).

Strand, Ninth and D streets—Emily Stevens in "The Wheel of the Law."

Garden, 433 Ninth street—William S. Hart in "The Captive God" (Triangle).

Home, Twelfth and C streets northeast—Geraldine Farrar in "Temptation," by Geraldine Farrar and Hector Turnbull (Lasky).

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E. H. SOTHERN AS A FILM STAR.

Distinguished Actor in His Vitaphone Dressing Room "Making Up" for His Part in "The Chatter," To Be Seen at the Casino This Week.

ANNOUNCE SCORES OF BORLAND LAW FIGHT CIVILIAN CLUB MATCH

Home Club Team Fifteenth and War Department Twentieth in National Event.

Results of the Civilian Club national match, in which the Interior Department Home Club Target Association and the War Department Rifle Club of Washington participated, and which was won by the Rocky Mountain Rifle Club, have just been announced.

The Interior Department team, with a score of 3,112, finished fifteenth, while the club representing the War Department, finished twentieth, with a score of 1,940.

The match was participated in by teams from all over the country, each sending the results to the National Rifle Association, which decided the winner.

The Rocky Mountain Club, winner over 215 competitors made a score of 2,375 out of a possible 2,500. This is 79 points higher than the score of 2,296, which won the match for Los Angeles last year.

Almost ideal conditions prevailed at the Rocker, Montana range, where the winners of the match lived for several weeks prior to the shooting of the match on that range. Other teams were not as fortunate in having a range to practice on or as good weather conditions the day of the shoot.

President McLaughlin of the War Department Rifle Club, in speaking of the matches, said:

"The days available for the shoot were not the kind of days that are conducive to good shooting. Those who were able to get our one day's allotted practice were fortunate, for it taught them how to lie in a puddle of water without getting wet."

"The man-eating mosquitoes got in their work the night before the match. The great joy of the match, however, was the chiggers, that seemed to find one just as he was pressing the trigger."

A. E. Johnson of the War Department team, with a score of 221, was high man on his team. E. A. Strachan, with 204, was second, and C. S. Brock, with 203, was third. Other members of the War Department team were: A. W. Wallace, H. F. Corley, J. H. McLaughlin, H. E. Hamilton, D. M. Keeton, F. S. VanBrunt and J. M. Steward.

The highest score of the Interior Department team was made by S. H. Weeder, with 233. M. B. Saunders, with a score of 225 was second, and Edwin Kirk was third, with a score of 221. Other members of the team were Alvin Colburn, H. R. Hollifield, D. E. Wilson, H. Kensipp, F. R. Dudley, L. B. Raymond, Jr., and H. Tomlin.

BORLAND LAW FIGHT WILL START ON OCT. 3

Columbia Heights Citizens to Open Campaign Against Assessment Act.

A campaign for the repeal of the Borland law, assessing abutting property owners one-half the cost of street improvements, will be started by the Columbia Heights Citizens' Association at its next meeting, October 3.

The association hopes to align all of the citizens' organizations in the fight against the enforcement of the Borland law.

Because of opposition to the Borland law the Columbia Heights Citizens' Association will not ask the District Commissioners to make any street improvements in their section.

A list of the improvements desired by the association has been filed with the Commissioners, but no reference is made to street improvements.

The northwestern citizens are principally interested in the installation of an up-to-date lighting system in Fourteenth street, from Florida avenue to Shepherd street, and a sixteen-room school near Thirteenth street and Spring road.

Other requested improvements include a fire truck house at Sherman and Florida park project, purchase of the president's residence, completion of Meridian street, and a swimming pool, and increase in the police detail at the Tenth precinct.

Tommy to Have His Jam.

LONDON, Sept. 25.—Tommy will have jam this winter. The government has commandeered the entire raspberry crop of Auchterarder in the Perthshire fruit district.

IF YOU NEED A

URIC-ACID SOLVENT

WRITE FOR A 50 Cent Bottle (32 Doses) FREE

Just because you start the day worried and tired, stiff legs and arms and muscles, an aching head, burning and bearing down pains in the back—worn out before the day begins—do not think you have to stay in that condition.

Be strong, well and vigorous, with no more pains from stiff joints, sore muscles, rheumatic suffering, aching back or kidney disease.

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LOANS HORNING

Auto, Va. (south end of Highway Bridge). Free automobile from 5th and D Sts. N.W.

NEW YORK BAKER TO BOOST BREAD

Ward Baking Company Will Retail Loaf at 6 Cents, Beginning October 2.

NEW YORK, Sept. 25.—The Ward Baking Company has announced that, beginning October 2, its ordinary 5-cent loaf will be retailed at 6 cents. About two weeks ago the weight of Ward's 5-cent loaf was reduced one ounce and the weight of its 10-cent loaf about two ounces. In the present announcement it is stated that the weight of the smaller loaf will be increased.

This does not herald the end of the 5-cent loaf, however, and the Ward Company will sell a "small loaf at a reduced rate, with proper label, unwrapped" for 5 cents. A hint is given that this may be only a temporary arrangement, as it is said that the 5-cent loaf will be too small to manufacture satisfactorily.

The excuse presented for the higher charge is the war prices, that now exist for flour, sugar, milk, and shortening, and also the increased cost of the paper for wrapping. Purchase of the 10-cent loaf is recommended as more economical.

Inquiry at the offices of the Ward Company failed to elicit any information as to the weight of the new loaves.

Grand Jury Will Investigate Increase

CHICAGO, Sept. 25.—A Federal grand jury will investigate the action of wholesale bakers in raising the price of bread, according to District Attorney Clyne. Not only the big bakers, but the smaller ones, are in the compact, it is charged, and it is only a matter of weeks before practically all the bakers of Chicago will increase the cost or materially reduce the size of their loaves.

That the increase will be nationwide is the belief of Mr. Clyne, and this was borne out by the assertions of B. H. Dahlheimer, president of the Master Bakers' Association. "It is impossible for the bakeries to make expenses at the present high price of flour," he said. "We must either raise the price or close down our shops. We have in no way conspired to make an unjustified raise in prices. We simply met and discussed conditions and the remedy for staying off the ruin of our business."

Fire Damages Powder Plant at Indian Head, Md.

A fire in the powder mixing plant of the United States powder factory at Indian Head, Md., caused damage to an amount of about \$2,000, according to a statement of the Navy Department.

Rear Admiral Joseph Strauss, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, stated that at no time did the fire threaten to assume serious proportions. There were no casualties, and the work was not impeded by the blaze.

GOOD POSTS OPEN IN FEDERAL SERVICE

Examinations to Be Held October 24, for Experts in Various Departments.

Salaried positions in the Government service paying \$2,500 and \$3,000 a year will be filled by the Civil Service Commission by examinations October 24.

One expert post to be filled is that of lumber inspector in the Bureau of Forestry who will inspect lumber exports from the Philippines. This pays \$2,500 a year.

The other examination will be to fill vacancies in the ranks of assistants in marketing investigations in the Department of Agriculture at salaries ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,000 a year.

University training and previous experience as an investigator of agricultural marketing are necessary for this post.

Other examinations announced by the Civil Service Commission are for gardener, Indian Service, at Tulip, Wash., October 17, pay \$720 a year; fiber inspector, Philippine Service, October 25, \$1,500 to \$2,000 a year; stenographer and typewriter, male, November 10, entrance pay \$900 a year.

FOOD PRICE INCREASE SHOWN IN REPORT

Department of Labor Statistics Show General Upward Trend of Wholesale Prices.

Aside from any consideration of conflicting claims of the political "spellers," the statistics of the Department of Labor show that the cost of living in the United States is steadily rising. A bulletin issued by the department shows that in the year 1915 what had been the high cost of living had grown considerably higher.

Food, clothing, farm products, raw materials, and finished products were all involved in the upward trend, though fuel and lighting, lumber and building materials, and house furnishing goods showed a slight decline under the level of 1914.

A majority of the 124 commodities which increased in price between 1914 and 1915 belong to the farm products, clothes and clothing, and metals and metal products groups.

Articles showing an increase of more than 20 per cent were native steer hides, rye, wheat, medium fleece wool, 2-2s worsted yarn, ingot copper, copper wire, quicksilver, sheet zinc and spelter. Some of the articles which decreased in price were hops, cotton flannels and raw silk.

In most instances decreases were small, while increases of more than 30 per cent were recorded for beans, rye flour, wheat flour, oranges, raw sugar and zinc oxide.

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